

ACORN

The Journal of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario

XX
Spring



2
1995



The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc.
10 Adelaide Street East, Suite 204, Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3
Telephone (416) 367-8075



A society incorporated in 1933 for the preservation of the best examples of the architecture of the province, and for the protection of its places of natural beauty.

Table of Contents

Council News

Vernacular II: 1995 ACO Conference, Ottawa
Branch Reports at the Annual General Meeting
For Sale: Markham's First Post Office
Branch Reports
Report of the Consulting Heritage Manager
Take a Walk on the Wired Side
William Thomas, Architect (1799-1860)
Architectural Details

Branch Editors

Quinte Region

Dan Atkinson
8 Cambridge Crt.
Belleville, Ontario
K8N 5N3

Port Hope

Marion Garland
86 Augusta St.
Port Hope
L1A 1G9

Brant County

Michael Keefe
165 Tollgate Road
Brantford, Ontario
N3R 5A2
(519) 759-0948

Heritage Oxford

Jack Hedges
380 Admiral Street
Woodstock, Ontario
N4S 5A8
(519) 537-2248

London Region

Howard Pulver
75 Thorton Avenue
London, Ontario
N5Y 2Y5
(519) 679-9932

Huron County

John Rutledge
194 St. David St.
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 1L8

The financial support of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, the Honourable Marilyn Mushinski, Minister, is gratefully acknowledged.

Printed on Recycled Paper by
Trillium Printing,
Kitchener, Ontario.



ACO Executive

President

Alec Keefer

Senior Vice-President

William Moffet

Vice-Presidents

Anne McKillop
Mary Angela Tucker

Treasurer

John I. Sutlic, C.A.

Secretary

Margaret Goodbody

Past President

Julia Beck

Members-at-Large

Shirley Ayer
Donna Baker
Dean Ramsay
Pat Rosebrugh
Ruth Shantz

Heritage Administrator

John Martins-Manteiga

Consulting Heritage Manager

Paul Dilse

Editorial Staff

Editor-in-Chief

Marg Rowell
131 William St. W.,
Waterloo, Ontario N2L 1K2
(519) 743-0833

Editors Emeriti

Marion Walker Garland
Peter John Stokes

Published four times per year.

Editorial

I must apologize for the delay in producing this issue of ACORN. The two remaining issues for the year will be in October and December. It is my hope, in the future, to space the four issues out a little more.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Margaret Goodbody. I was unable to take time from work to attend the Conference and Annual Meeting in Ottawa, and Margaret generously agreed to take notes on the proceedings and then transformed the notes into excellent reports.

I am always pleased to get a submission from George Duncan. His articles, photographs and drawings are very good and just the sort of material I would like to see more of in the ACORN.

In this and future issues we will be featuring some ACO Advisory Board Reports. Paul Dilse is in the process of organizing the reports for the ACO.

We welcome The Preserve Walkerville Committee of Windsor. The group was given official branch status at the Annual Meeting. We were also pleased to learn that the Hamilton Branch is being revitalized.

Council News

NEW FACES

Returning Council members were pleased to meet new member-at-large Shirley Siegwart Ayer, who is associated with the Toronto Branch but resides in Terra Cotta. Shirley is particularly interested in the development of the railway lands and in the dreamed of removal of the Gardiner elevated expressway. Also present at the first Council meeting of the new session was Rob Hamilton, who so ably curated the remounting of the Terra Cotta Exhibition in the City of Hamilton. Rob is one of a core group of eight seeking to revitalize the Hamilton Branch. Not so new but always welcome were two vice-presidents just appointed - Bill Moffet and Mary Angela Tucker.

SANDWICH DAYS

At the direction of the membership, the executive tries to arrange the June and Sep-

tember Council meetings in locations other than Toronto. The June meeting was too close to the AGM for us to set up an out-of-town meeting, but at the suggestion of Chatham resident and vice-president Mary Angela Tucker the September meeting may be held in the Windsor area to take advantage of the "Sandwich Days" celebrations. Most of us were not aware that this community is the oldest continuous settlement in Upper Canada, being founded in 1796.

ADVISORY BOARD CHANGES

Bill Greer has stepped down as chair of the Advisory Board after three years of dedicated service, and his parting comment was that it was impossible for a member with a full outside workload to properly administer the Board with only limited assistance. Fortunately, Paul Dilse successfully completed the training portion of the Self-Employment Assistance Component of UIC and since February has been working for the ACO consolidating and organizing the Advisory Board files and preparing to increase the effectiveness and public profile of the Board. Paul has already recruited five other new Board members: Martin Ahermaa, Archivist, Toronto; Natalie Bull, Conservation Analyst, Ottawa; George Duncan, Historian, Richmond Hill; Su Murdoch, Historian, Barrie; Jeffery Stinson, Professor of Architecture, Toronto. There is still a pressing need for architects to help with the Board's work in all parts of the province.

Margaret Goodbody

Vernacular II: 1995 ACO Conference, Ottawa Summary of Papers Given

**Vernacular:
It's in the Definition**
Angela Carr

Every student of architectural history learned that there are points of contact be-

tween vernacular forms and "high style". Examples of this include Christopher Wren's classicizing Fountain Court added to the Tudor fabric of Hampton Court Palace, repeating the use of by then unfashionable red brick, and John Soane's treatment of Dulwich College Picture Gallery inspired by the neo-classical myth of the rustic hut.

Clearly, these "vernacular" adaptations were filtered through the lens of high style by professional architects. Vernacular structures respond to a fundamentally different set of issues, many of which are outlined in the ICOMOS definition, which refers to "physical and spiritual needs of the inhabitants" ... that is, built form correlated to social process. The approach to construction is viewed as unself-conscious - results are shaped by local or regional factors such as geography, climate and available materials, and by the cultural influences of skill-training, learned conventions of building, and economics.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines vernacular in terms of language, being "of one's country, not of foreign origin or learned formation; the native tongue, homely downright speech." By the 1970's, vernacular scholars were applying the lessons of linguistics to their own discipline. This theory proposed that vernacular forms arise from a given (and limited) set of conventions similar to the rules of grammar, which could be modified by individuals to express personal creativity. Social history, which examined how ordinary people lived instead of how their leaders conducted themselves, became the next logical linkage. The most recent phase of vernacular studies is increasingly trans disciplinary, linking art and architectural history with such other disciplines as archaeology, social history, sociology, folklore and historical and cultural geography. Some scholars position the field as part of the larger academic concern with material culture, that is to say all object made and used by human beings.

An Architectural Union in Toronto's Riverdale

William Gilpin

The house at 469 Broadview, purchased three years ago by the unsuspecting author, may well be the oldest inhabited house in Toronto, and is certainly the oldest inhabited log house. It was built, quite probably, in the

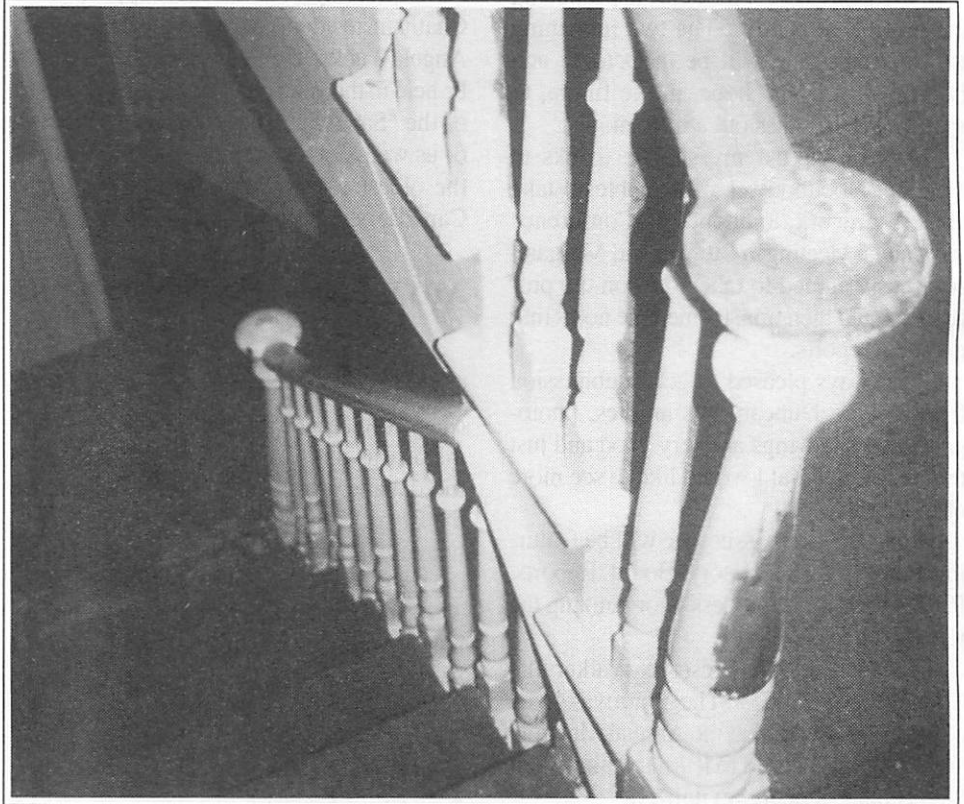
1790's and incorporates two centuries of vernacular Ontario building trends under one roof. Compared with the Scadding cabin on the CNE ground, of which nothing original remains but the shell, this small building is a goldmine of information.

A map from the York County Atlas of the 1870's shows the original 270-acre land grant to John Cox, merchant of York. The house sits dead centre in the farm lot, taking maximum advantage of the view - the original front, now the side, faced land sloping away to the south - and was probably built by the original grantee. In the 1840's or 1850's, the log house was transformed into a Regency lodge, and in 1870 expanded and remodelled by its then owner William Langley, a builder. The Greek revival "improvements" which he made (window trim and doorcase) may have been inspired by the George Brown house on Jarvis Street, since this prestigious residence was in the same neighbourhood as a church which Langley was building.

Peeling the layers of the onion revealed the squared logs, dovetail joints, and some of the chinking of its first incarnation. White wash on the exterior indicates that the logs were originally exposed, and marks for strapping show that the clapboarding was later

walls, appears to have been original to the log house; the remains of a basement cooking

as living quarters. Layer upon layer of wallpaper throughout the house await analysis.



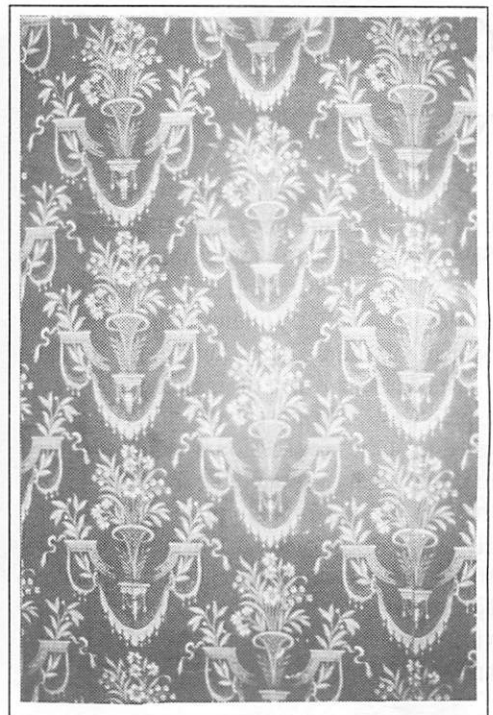
Bannister linking main level with full basement. (Note basement ceiling dropped almost 12")
William Gilpin



Renovated bathroom in 1870's addition - portion of exterior of log house revealed. Vertical light-coloured markings show position of strapping that had held early clapboard. Note original window opening (right side).
William Gilpin

installed. The house is presently stuccoed. In the attic of the expanded house can be seen hand-split pine shingles of the original roof. The basement, with its 2-foot thick stone

hearth are visible. A later (gas) fireplace was also discovered in the basement and the quality of the bannister and staircase indicate that this part of the house was always used



Late 19th century wallpaper in Dining Room. Background of wallpaper is red. The pattern is white.
William Gilpin

Representations of Domestic Architecture in The Chatelaine Magazine

Jennifer Cousineau

Perusal of *The Chatelaine Magazine* between 1928 and 1949 presents a fascinating study of what one might view either as a microcosm of women's role in society, or as propaganda designed to sell women on a pre-packaged role. There is no question that women's role changed dramatically over this period of time. In the 1920's *Chatelaine* editors addressed an elite class, as opposed to a mass audience. Advertisements showed elegantly dressed women engaged in leisure activities, their needs being attended to by servants. The woman of the 1920's, as depicted in *The Chatelaine*, was not solely a wife and mother - although interested in the interior decor of her home she was not shackled to it but was part of a wider world of intellectual interests.

In 1930, articles on home economics began to appear and *The Chatelaine* Institute came into being, creating the first demonstration kitchen in Canada. The *Chatelaine Modern House* was published in 1933-34, promoting the modern aesthetic in architecture and interior design.

By 1945 *The Chatelaine* had acquired an enormous female consumer base, but with the end of World War II a new women's role in society was being fashioned. Although more women were working outside the home than at any other time in our history, two thirds of editorials in this period stressed women's duty to stay home and consume. Women were told that housework was professional and glamorous, as evidenced by the charming models in their spotless kitchens and the male expert who was hired to teach them domestic planning. In fact, *The Chatelaine* made it clear that it was women's moral duty to stay home in the safety of her planned suburban community and be a good housekeeper.

Masterpiece to Commonplace

Brian Hunt

Great masterpieces of world civilization are created by supremely talented individuals, while the rest of society carries on in the every day, established, unthinking, "normal" way of doing things. Although the "normal" vernacular way of building is unremarkable

and unremarked within the community, it may be so unique as to appear exotic to another culture or time period.

Practical necessities and conditions placed a large part in the evolution of the architecture of early and the more primitive cultures of recent times, but they do not explain a great range of decorative and compositional features - there is also powerful cultural impetus which influences form. A static culture produces unchanging architecture, while dynamic and evolving cultures keep changing their architecture. Masterpieces set the standard for a society; they will be followed and imitated and, in the manner of ripples from a stone thrown into a pond, will lose their intensity as they spread further from the source. Vernacular architecture is at the outer edge of this effect and receives new ideas after they have travelled some distance and spent much of their energy.

If vernacular architecture is affected by changing ideas, the means by which those ideas are transmitted will be very important. A good part of Ontario's early architecture is clearly of English origin, based on the Georgian style current in England for most of the 18th century, and on the Gothic revival; London's Crystal Palace is the ancestor of the Eaton Centre. Present day vernacular architecture is surely best represented by the normal suburb, and through great masters of modern architecture such as Frank Lloyd Wright had some influence, its origins again lie among the great and famous architectures of the world - echoes of classical porches and temple fronts still abound.

Copy Cats & Individualists:

The Houses of Bellevue Avenue, Toronto

Edna Hudson

A walk down Bellevue Avenue tells the story of a unique street where most lots have been built on only once. Much of the motivation and interest of the study of a modest street of this kind on the edge of old Toronto arises because so much of it is still intact. These houses are lived in today, not just because people cannot afford newer ones, but because they like them. The story of these houses and the social circumstances of those who built them needs to be told.

Not all structures on the street are humble in nature - it is also the location of the

Haliconian Club, a combination of Gothic and Italianate built as a church, and of the replica 1875 firehall. Belle Vue mansion was the home of R.B. Dennison and the street's namesake. It was sold to Edith Dennison who had it demolished in 1890, bowing to current property-value and development trends. However, the great interest of Bellevue Avenue lies in its variety of small house types and materials. The frame house at No. 114 is one of the earliest on the street, built before 1870. There are lots of houses of lovely orange brick, and the common to Toronto Gothic cottage is well represented. Some lots have two or three houses packed on them. Perhaps the most intriguing element of all this domestic building is the shed house. A large number of these tiny 1-bedroom dwellings, about 20' x 30', were built by immigrants. There was no access to the street except on foot. Three still remain on Bellevue Avenue; the rest were demolished.

It's in the Detail

John Rutledge

While the Gothic farmhouse predominates in the three rural communities of Western Ontario - Huron, Bruce and Perth - variations in detail create distinctive local styles. For example, in an affluent part of the region might be found houses with huge dormers, patterned slate roofs, and other elaborate details which would not appear in a poorer farming area. A 5-bay front, on the other hand, is clearly a Mennonite influence. Within the Gothic style the T-shaped plan predominates, oriented with either front or side to the street.

A phenomenon one encounters in this part of Ontario is the combination of styles, giving us the "Queen Anne Gothic" with bay windows and fancy trim (some have Regency porches as well), or the "Italianate Queen Anne". In the Mitchell/Brodhagen area of Huron County the Romanesque arch was popular. Gothic has still not lost its local appeal, as witness two new Gothic "farmhouses" on the main street of Shesapeake.

The other prominent house type of the region is the Italianate farmhouse. It may measure only 24 feet square but dominates the landscape when standing in an open field. Common features of Italianate farmhouses were the two exterior doors upstairs, the reason for which was the difficulty of moving furniture up and down the kind of staircases favoured for this house type. The

1960S added a new vernacular twist to the Italianate farmhouse with the common practice of incorporating a picture window. Two houses in Dungannon, Huron County, could be classed as "Italianate Edwardian Queen Anne"! Even given this tradition of mixing styles, a house with an Italianate main block and a Gothic rear wing, all built at the same time, is hard to top.

Local details such as classical laurel-leaf trim or the heavy overdone "Goderich porch" may be unique to a quite small geographic area. In the prosperous farming area known as the Dublin flats, one finds a style best described as "Brodhagen Big" which features two unique porch types found only within a 10-mile radius, that being the range of the twin brothers who built and installed them.

***Renaissance to Main Street:
Sources of Ontario's
Georgian Vernacular***
Brian Hunt

Inspired by Vitruvius, Andreas Palladio communicated the principles of classical architecture to the renaissance world through his buildings and his Four Books. His disciple Inigo Jones introduced the new aesthetic to England with works such as the Banqueting House at Whitehall, but it was not widely accepted in that country until a century later when it was reintroduced by Lord Burlington with the design of such buildings as Somerset House. Once established, Palladianism became the correct style for 100 years, spanning the reigns of the Georges.

Georgian residences fall into two basic types - the detached villa and the rowhouse. Famous examples of Palladian villas include Chiswick House, which is very close to Palladio, and the more modest Marble Hill. The central element is the main distinguishing feature, even if reduced to a small projecting bay and simplified doorcase. Inigo Jones produced a scheme for a unified terrace of independent houses in 1630, but they were not common until Burlington's era, culminating in the great terraces of Bath. As this idea filtered down to a more commonplace level, rows of houses with a unified appearance became a major feature of British towns. From England, the Georgian style spread to its colonies, first to America and later to Canada. Quite a few terraces were built in

Ontario towns such as Coburg and Port Hope. The influx of United Empire Loyalists brought a further wave of Georgian influences. Osgood Hall and The Grange in Toronto and much of Niagara-on-the-Lake reflect this.

Although it took 250 years to reach the point of establishment in Ontario, the Georgian style had a profound and lasting influence here. From the Ontario cottage to the Gothic dormer based on the Palladian pediment to the later Victorian terrace to the present day revival of classical detail, Georgian architecture lives on.

Annual General Meeting

**SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1995
UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA**

Mr. Alec Keefer, president, welcomed 35 members to the sixty-second Annual Meeting. The normal business of an Annual Meeting was conducted. The proceedings of the meeting will be in the 1996 winter issue of ACORN.

Branch Reports at the Annual Meeting

QUINTE BRANCH

President Dan Atkinson stated that the focus for his branch is to raise public awareness of the ACO and its work through activities such as monthly walking tours; a sampling of those tours in book form was recently published. A quarterly newsletter is sent to CBC, newspapers and television stations, as well as to the usual list of members. He announced that last year's successful bus tour (to Merrickville) will be repeated, with the destination of Maitland/Brockville. The branch donated \$1,000 towards the restoration of Trenton Town Hall. Mr. Atkinson reported that the three important properties on the Loyalist Parkway are at risk because of lack of funds - the Fairfield, Gutzeit and Allison houses, which continue to be open to the public despite lack of paid staff.

PORT HOPE

Branch President Terry Foord reported on Port Hope's activities, which included public lectures, a BBQ and a Christmas Party, and an annual house tour which was another sell-out success. In concert with the East Durham Historical Society (EDHS) and the Town of Port Hope, the bench opposite the library was dedicated to the memory of local historian Cal Clayton. The opening of the Ganaraska Region Archives was a major achievement this year, again in cooperation with the EDHS. The Branch contributed \$15,000 directly and channelled other donations of about \$6,000 to the cause. The Branch continues to support the restoration of the Capitol Theatre through the Theatre Foundation and will conduct tours of the theatre during the Summer Festival. The ACO is also funding a Peter Stokes study of the Town Hall conservation requirements, and contributed \$500 to the Farini Garden.

HERITAGE CAMBRIDGE

Another assault on Cruickston Park Farm was fought off when the Branch discovered that the University of Guelph was planning to cut 1,700 old growth trees, on the pretence that they were diseased. Timely intervention, spear-headed by Pat and Ben Rosebrugh, brought in the Region's Environmental Assessment Committee, who determined that only 17 trees needed to be removed. The provincially significant Sheave Tower was secured when the Community Heritage Fund Committee negotiated the purchase of the 5-acre property on which it stands, and acquired a piece of class-2 wetland into the bargain. A severance application is in process so that a building lot portion at one end of the property may be sold off to replenish the fund.

WALKERVILLE/WINDSOR BRANCH

The Preserve Walkerville Committee of Windsor was faced with demolition permits on three buildings in the Hiram Walker complex. Unfortunately, they were unable to save the Flatiron Building or the Malt House, but the Town Hall was moved to a new location on March 17. Much donated material and community support made this possible.

TORONTO BRANCH

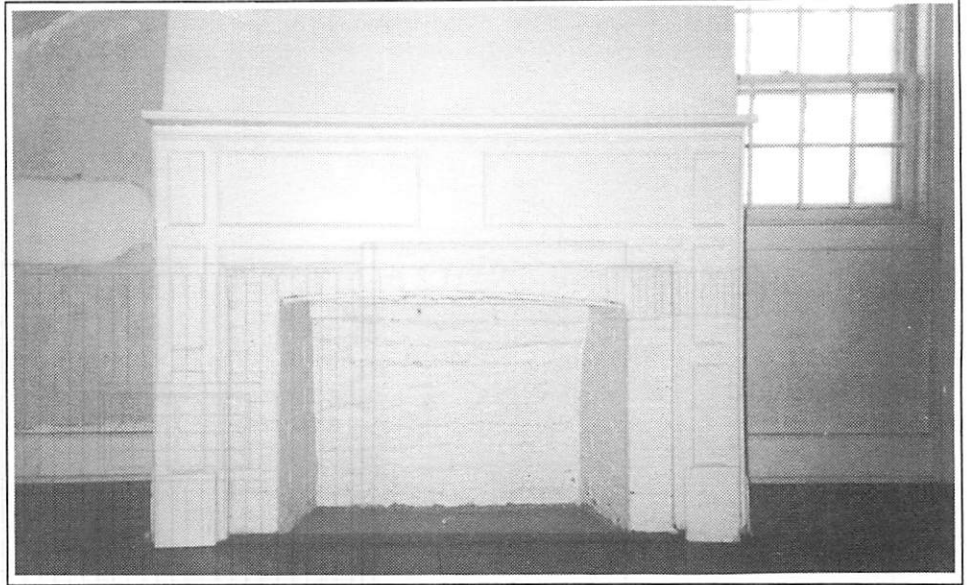
Lecture series were held in fall and spring, with a talk by Carlos Ventin, architect of the Legislature renovations, one on the threatened Lynne Marsh wetlands near Pickering, a talk on Garrison Creek, and a talk and meeting at the Fort York barracks. The Toronto Branch gave evidence at the OMB hearing on the Gooderham & Worts redevelopment. There is considerable interest in defending the old Postal Delivery building at 40 Bay Street. The owners and potential owners propose a very dense redevelopment of the areas through a transfer for density arrangement.

Markham's First Post Office For Sale

One of Markham's earliest and most significant heritage structures has recently been put on the market by its long-time owner.

Designated under *The Ontario Heritage Act* and plaqued as the James Johnston House, circa 1820, this landmark stands on the east side of Highway 48, a little south of Highway #7. Clad in 1960's aluminium siding, its true architectural character is masked to some extent, but its early lines remain clearly discernable.

The first post office for Markham Village was established here in 1829, with James



Fireplace detail, 53 Main Street S., Markham
George W.J. Duncan

Johnston as the appointed postmaster. Johnston's tenure was cut short by an illness and subsequent death, and he was replaced by his cousin Archibald Barker in 1832. The post office continued under the administration of the Barker family for a period of 49 years.

By the middle of the 19th century, Archibald Barker, also a successful merchant, mill owner and Justice of the Peace, moved the post office operation further north into the emerging commercial core of Markham Village. The commercial role of the house ended, but a mail sorting box was left behind in the cellar.

Researchers have suggested various dates of construction for 53 Main Street South.

One theory proposes that the house was built by James Johnston in 1828 to serve as a combined residence, post office and general store. The plaque on the building reads circa 1820, but Johnston did not reside here until the later part of the decade.

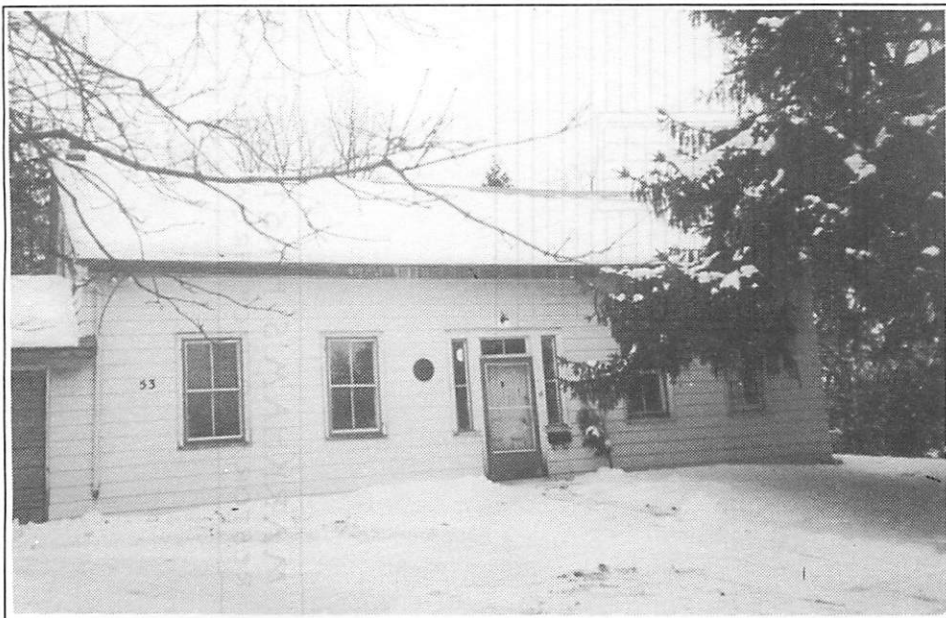
Physical evidence does support an 1820's period of construction, but the identity of the builder remains obscure because the property was a rented Clergy Reserve lot until 1842.

In addition to its considerable historical interest, the house is a good example of an exceptionally early frame dwelling in the Late Georgian style. With five-bay front, generously-size rooms and at least four fireplaces, this was built as a fine residence for an owner of some financial means.

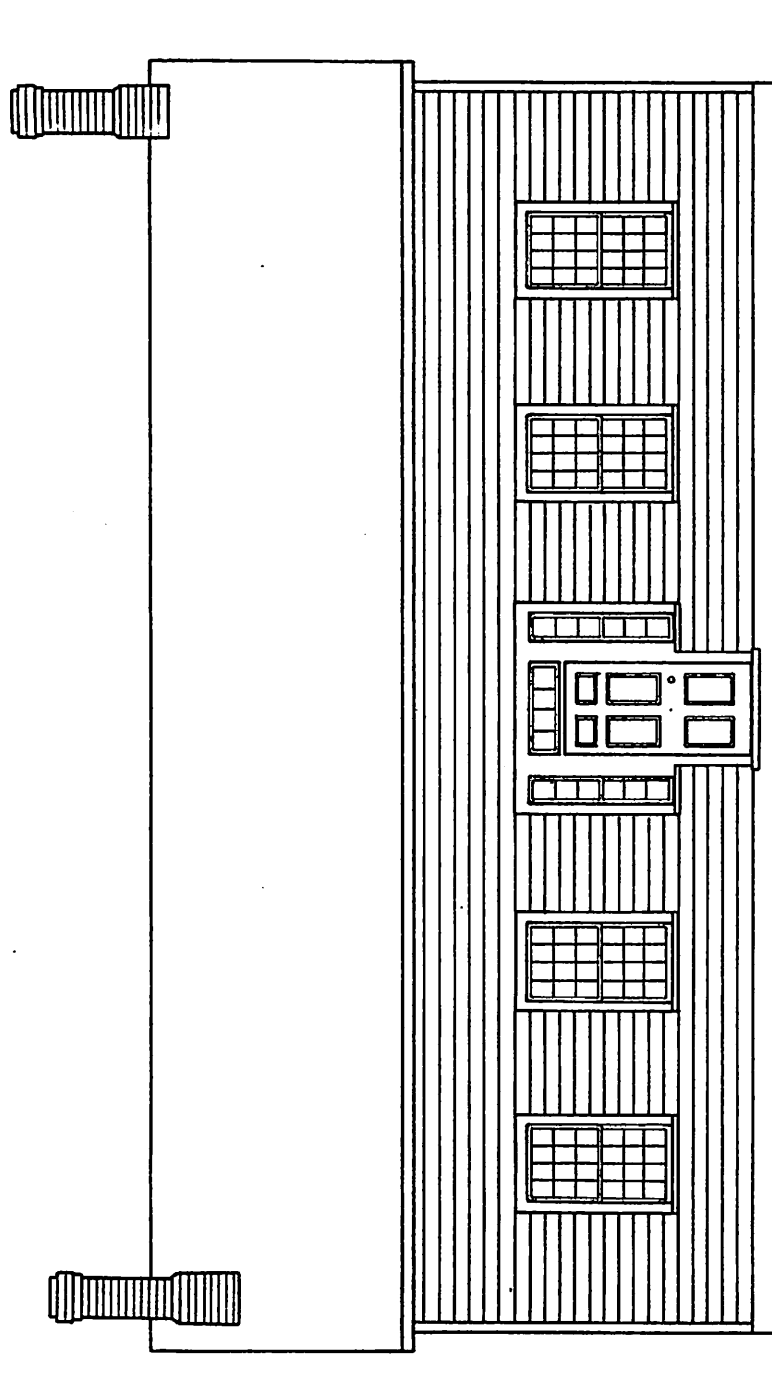
Although the front windows were updated to larger and fewer panes in the 1880's, some original 12-over-12 and 12-over-8 sash can still be seen on the side and rear walls. The central doorcase, with separate transom and sidelights, is a noteworthy feature, but has been somewhat altered through the removal of some muntins from the lights and the replacement of the door with a four panelled unit.

Inside, the straight-run staircase retains its slender, turned newel. Six and four panelled doors, many with early hardware, are still in place or are stored in the cellar. Mouldings from different periods are found in different areas of the ground floor, but the most intact space is the second floor hall and bedrooms.

The cellar has a curious arrangement of walls. The south half is fully excavated, while most of the north half was originally



53 Main Street South, Markham
George W.J. Duncan



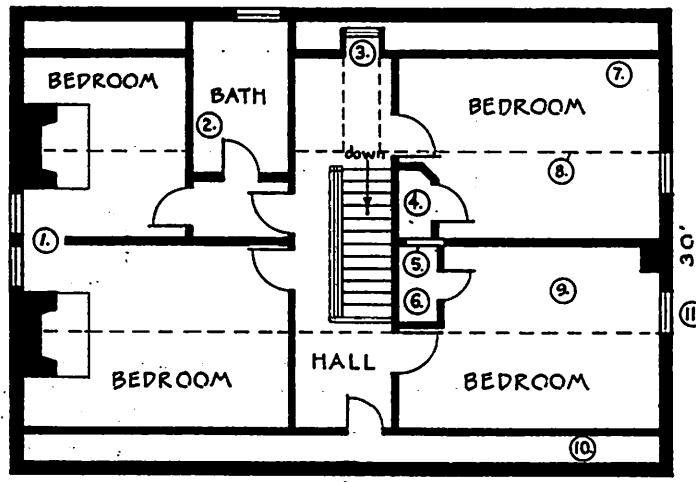
WEST ELEVATION



MARKHAM'S FIRST POST OFFICE • 53 MAIN ST. S. • HOUSE BUILT *circa* 1820 •
 RESTORATION OF FRONT ELEVATION • DRAWN JAN. 1995 • GEORGE W. J. DUNCAN •

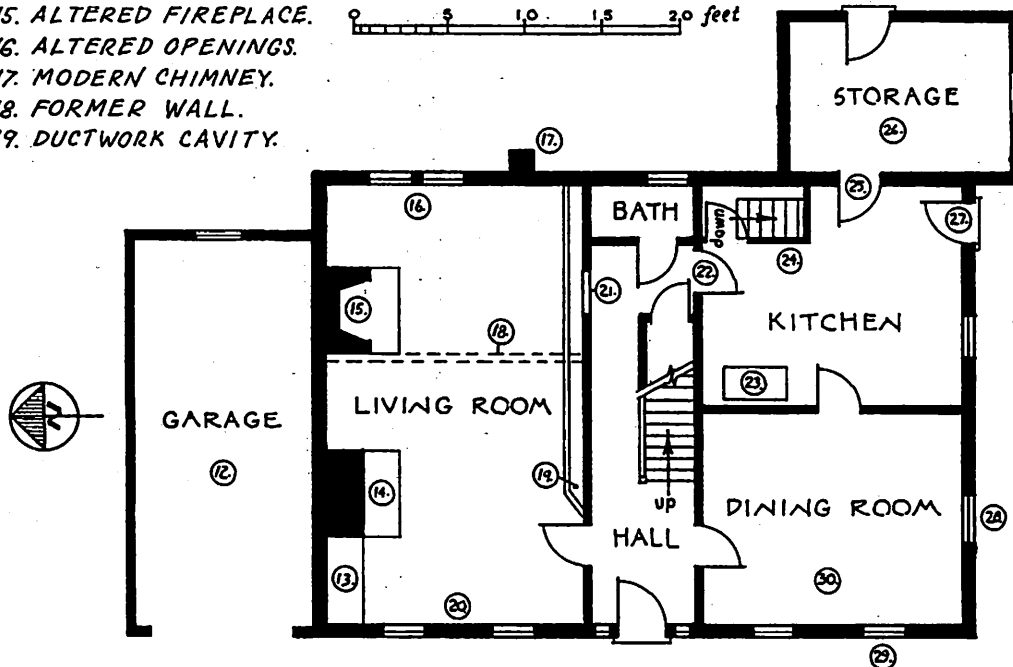
NOTES:

1. LATER DOOR.
2. LATER PARTITIONS.
3. ORIGINAL DORMER.
4. LATER CLOSET.
5. FORMER DOOR.
6. LATER CLOSET.
7. KNEE WALL 4'2".
8. CEILING SLOPE LINE.
9. CEILING 7'4".
10. CAVITY.
11. WINDOW:
HEIGHT 4'11/2".
WIDTH 2'7 1/2".
SILL 2'0".
12. MODERN ADDITION.
13. SEALED CUPBOARD.
14. SEALED FIREPLACE.
15. ALTERED FIREPLACE.
16. ALTERED OPENINGS.
17. MODERN CHIMNEY.
18. FORMER WALL.
19. DUCTWORK CAVITY.



SECOND FLOOR

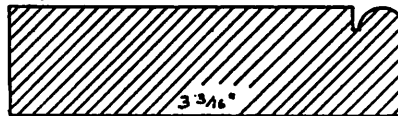
0 5 10 15 20 feet



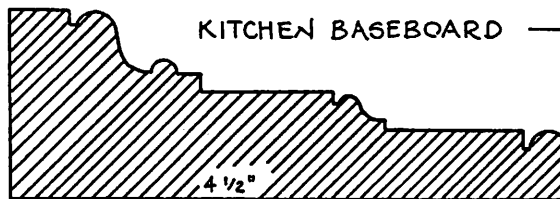
GROUND FLOOR

20. BUILT-OUT WALLS.
21. SEALED DOOR.
22. LATER DOOR.
23. TRAP DOOR.
24. LATER STAIRWAY.
25. ALTERED OPENING.
26. RELOCATED FROM NORTH END.
27. LATER DOOR.
28. EXTRA-WIDE WINDOW.
29. WINDOW (1880s SASH):
HEIGHT 4'11 1/4".
WIDTH 2'7 1/2".
SILL 2'8 1/4".
30. CEILING 8'3".

BEDROOM ARCHITRAVE

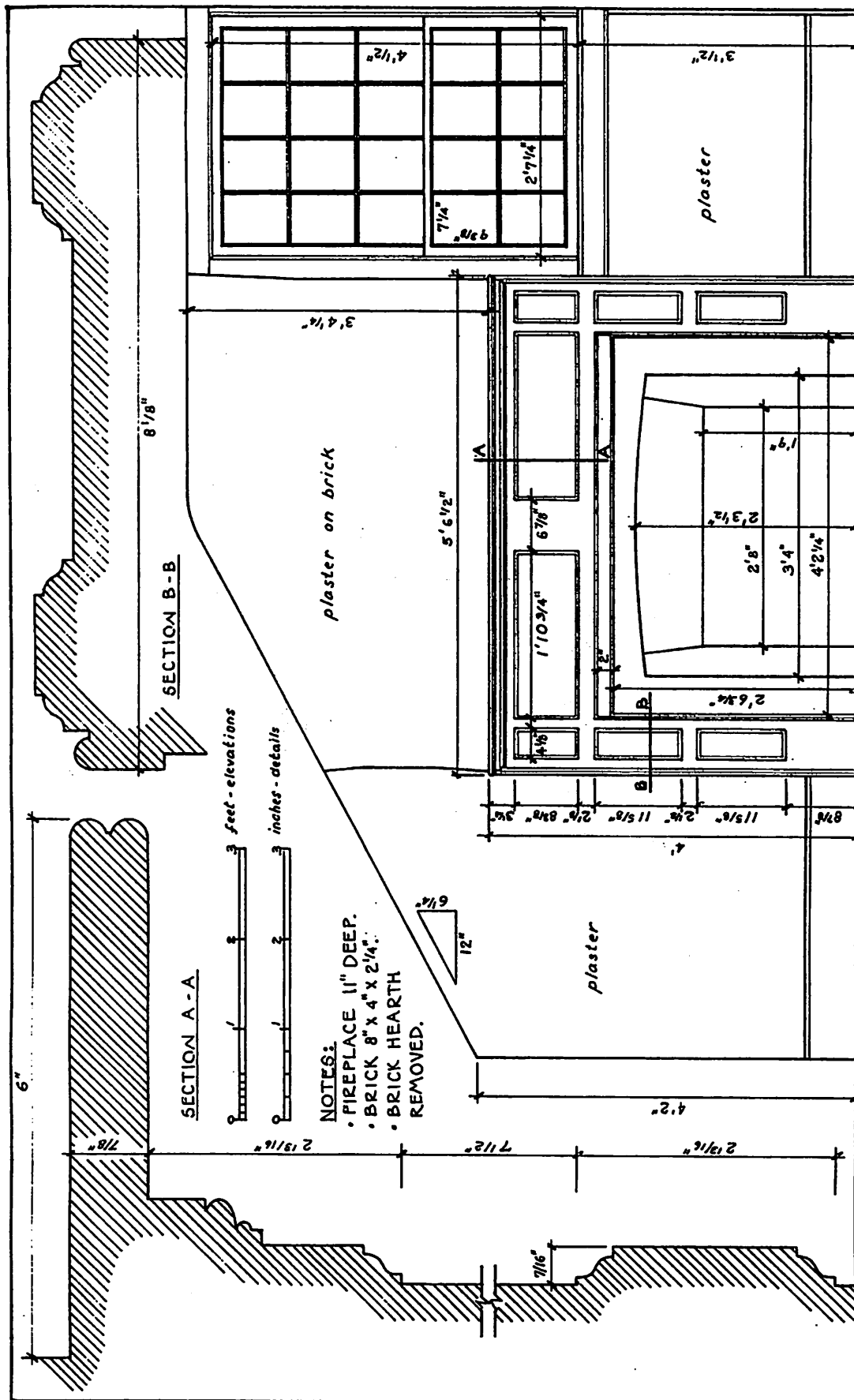


KITCHEN BASEBOARD

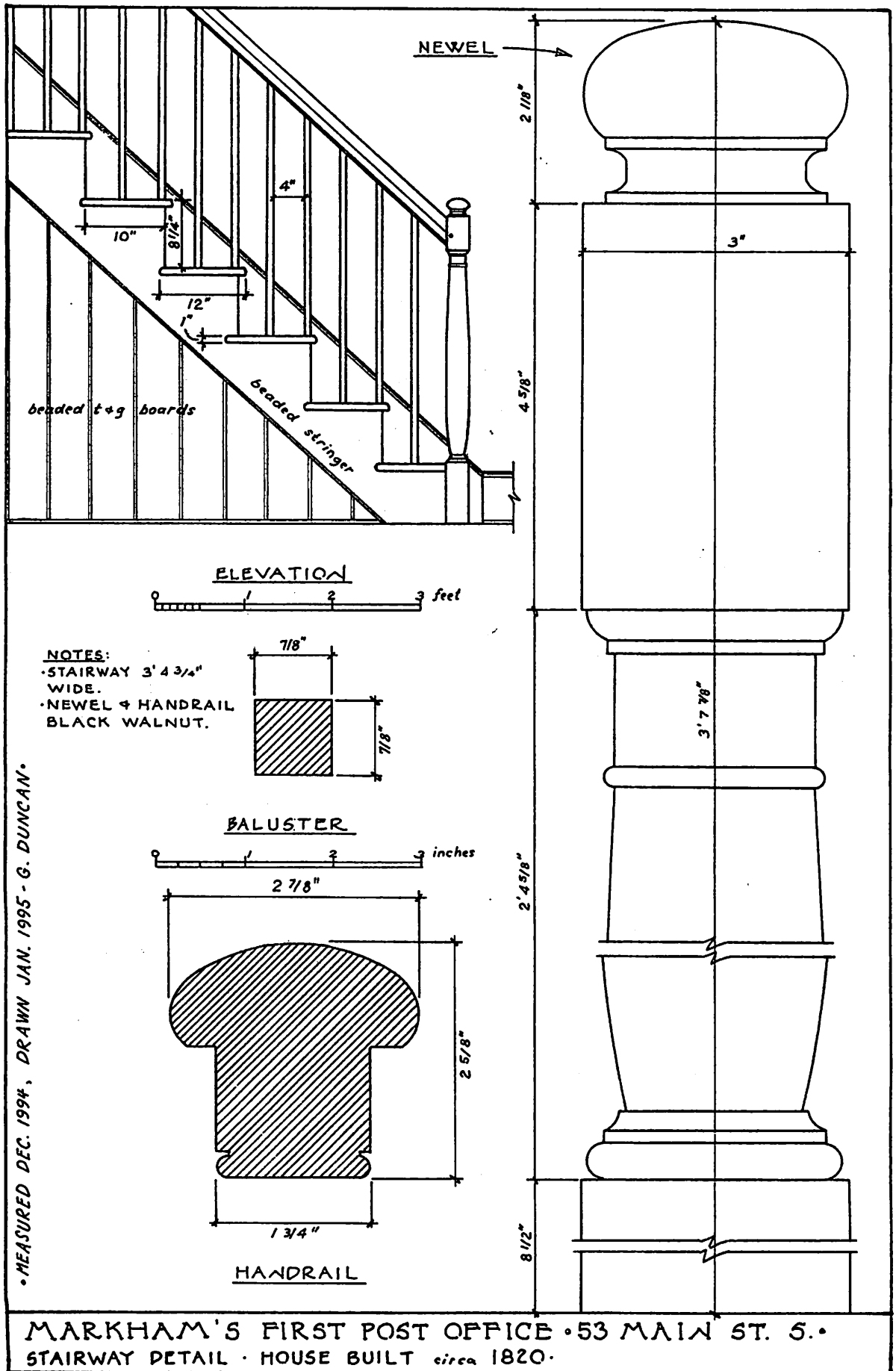


LIVING ROOM ARCHITRAVE

MARKHAM'S FIRST POST OFFICE • 53 MAIN ST. S. •
AS-FOUND FLOOR PLANS AND MOULDING PROFILES • HOUSE BUILT *circa* 1820 •



MARKHAM'S FIRST POST OFFICE • 53 MAIN ST. 5 • HOUSE BUILT *c/ra* 1820 •
ROOM END • NORTH WEST BEDROOM • MEASURED DEC. 1994, DRAWN JAN. 1995 • G. W. J. DUNCAN •



constructed as a crawlspace, but has since been dug out. The oddity about the cellar is a narrow passageway that runs along the rear wall of the house to penetrate the formerly unexcavated section, for no readily apparent purpose.

This remarkable property is located within a heritage conservation district, but its future is by no means assured because the area is in a state of transition. Development companies own some of the surrounding lands, and several neighbouring buildings are vacant and deteriorating.

While the James Johnston house is not quite intact enough to be considered a museum piece, many original features have been preserved, providing a great deal of potential for a sympathetic purchaser to carry out a reasonable restoration.

George W.J. Duncan

Branch Reports

Quinte Region

THE FAIRFIELD-GUTZEIT HOUSE

This late eighteenth century building is located in the Village of Bath, facing Amherst Island across the North Channel of Lake Ontario.

It was built in 1796 by brothers William and Benjamin Fairfield, Loyalists originally from Vermont. Their father, William Sr., built the handsome Fairfield House a few miles to the east. The Fairfield brothers were prominent men in their community, active in business and public service. William was elected to the Legislative Assembly, became a magistrate and a Commissioner of roads. Benjamin also served in the Legislature and sat on the Court of Quarter Sessions. The property was sold in the 1860's but returned to the family in 1938 when it was purchased by Mabel Fairfield-Gutzeit, and her husband, musician Dr. William Gutzeit.

The house is in a typical early style of the area, one and a half stories with a five bay front and three dormer windows. The central door is rather plain with two-part side lights but no transom. There have been many changes and additions over the years including the large, south facing veranda and a kitchen wing. The clapboard siding is finished at the corners with wooden quoins,



Fairfield-Gutzeit House, Bath, Ontario.

Courtesy Quinte Region ACO.

painted green in contrast with the white siding.

Of great interest to visitors is the collection of paintings and antique furnishings gathered by Dr. and Mrs. Gutzeit.

Also on the property is a large, two storey boathouse, used intensively in earlier years when the property was a summer home and fishing lodge. An early map shows a building, now lost, which served as a post office and customs house.

After the death of Mabel Fairfield Gutzeit the property came into the ownership of the St. Lawrence Parks Commission but budget restraints have severely limited funds available for maintenance and repair.

The property was designated by the Village of Bath under the Ontario Heritage Act and a volunteer committee has taken responsibility for staffing the house and organizing special events. It is hoped that in the future changes can be made which will allow this historic and interesting property to be properly utilized for the benefit of tourists and local citizens alike.

Toronto Region Branch

LECTURE SERIES

The B. Napier Simpson Jr. Memorial Lecture will take place on Thursday, October 19, 1995 in the Board of Education Auditorium, 155 College Street, at 7:30 p.m. The speaker will be Mr. Tony Herbert who is a lecturer in Fine Art at Wolverhampton University and at the University of Keele in U.K. Mr. Herbert is the former curator of the Jackfield

Town Museum, and has a long association with Iron Bridge Gorge site.

SUMMER WALKS

There will be two summer walks: "Two West Side Stories": Etobicoke and West Toronto Junction.

The first, "Triumph in Design - Kingsway Park, Etobicoke", will take place on Saturday, August 26 at 2 p.m. Starting at Royal York subway station, it will end at the Old Mill subway station by 4 p.m.

The second, "At Home and Away", west Toronto Junction, will be on Sunday, August 27 at 2 p.m. It will start at the Jane subway station and end at the Keele subway station by 3:30 p.m.

AWARD OF MERIT

An Award of Merit will be presented to the Parent Teacher Association of St. Helen's Catholic School at 1196 College St. in December for the conservation of the 1914 portion of their building and for its successful incorporation into a renewed St. Helen's. Date and time to be announced.

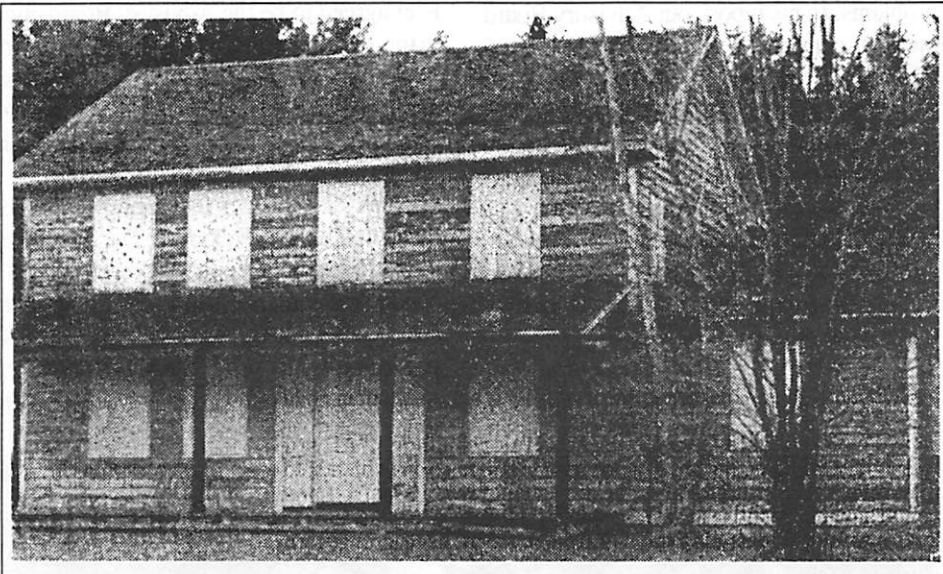
The Annual General Meeting of the Toronto Region Architectural Conservancy will follow the award ceremony. Anyone wishing to stand for office in the Toronto Region Branch of the ACO should contact the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Pierre Vaillancourt at 323-9374. St. Helen's is located at the northeast corner of College and Brock Streets. Brock is three streets east of Lansdowne Street.

North Waterloo Branch

THE PETER ERB HOUSE

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo recently approved the deaccessioning of the Peter Erb House located at Doon Heritage Crossroads in Kitchener. The house was built about 1820 for Peter Erb and his wife, Susannah, near the village of Bridgeport, which is now part of Kitchener.

The superstructure of the timber frame and wood clad house appears to be in sound condition, however the concrete block foundation is crumbling and poses severe risk to the building. The perimeter walls, which are beyond repair, are caving inward and the building is being supported on a cantilever joist which rests on a foundation wall running down the centre of the structure. It is only a matter of time before the foundation collapses and with it the building.



The Peter Erb House, Doon Heritage Crossroads
Reprinted from the K-W Record, May 3, 1995.

The house is not being considered for restoration at Doon because similar examples of architecture and time frame have already been preserved at the site and at other locations throughout the region. The Erb House, therefore, is being offered as a gift to any non-profit museum or heritage agency, subject to their taking the house in "as is" condition. The group acquiring the structure will be responsible for all conditions involved in its relocation. If no group shows interest in the house, it will be offered for sale for \$1.00, with the same conditions involved as the donation above.

Whether the building is donated or sold for renovation, proposals to acquire the house

will be evaluated on the basis of the final location of the house, financial ability to undertake the project and sensitivity to the treatment of architectural features. Preference will be given to individuals or groups proposing to preserve the house within the geographic boundaries of the Region of Waterloo.

If no suitable proposals are brought forward, the house will be sold for material salvage and any funds raised in excess of expenses will go to the Doon Heritage Crossroads Artifact Reserve Fund. For further information, please contact Tom Reitz, Manager/Curator, Doon Heritage Crossroads, R.R. #2, Kitchener, N2G 3W5, (519) 748-1914.

*Reprinted from the OHS Bulletin
Issue 97, May-June, 1995*

Port Hope House Tour

The Port Hope Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario will hold its ANNUAL HOUSE TOUR on Saturday, September 30, 1995 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This popular event will feature eight houses from the town's extensive 19th century architecture.

Among the many interesting buildings, two of the featured houses are both of frame construction yet both distinctive from each other in design and their use of heritage colours inside and out. Research has shown

the 19th century houses were often daringly decorated both with paint and wallpaper in jewel-like tones and patterns. Several houses on this year's tour show the results of this. Both these houses are called "cottages", although each is 1 1/2 storeys. Once visitors are inside, they will be amazed at what lies in store for them.

The first house was built in the early 1850s and presents its gable end toward the street. The sunroom on the west side is a later addition and has been whimsically decorated in a tent like manner. The main floor has been enlarged, refurbished and decorated in glowing colours. Structural changes that were made in the last several years have enlarged the kitchen and family room opening the view to a large garden with a small barn.

The second house sits on one of the highest points of land in Port Hope. It was built around 1870. The rooms on the main floor - except for the kitchen which has been enlarged - retain the same configuration although the interior of the house was gutted. The verandah had been enclosed but now opened reveals unusual detailing on the pillars that support curved arches. This house could be used as a Christmas illustration and the colours chosen show off the architectural details admirably.

Look for the tiger in one of these houses!

"This after photo does not show all the changes that have taken place in this Ontario cottage circa 1870. Originally the two front windows were in the style of French windows and will eventually be restored. The porch was no doubt a later addition. The semi-circular window over the front door would have had radiating glazing bars; the rooms remain the same but the hallway has had the ceiling removed giving it a 1 1/2 storey space which benefits from the light from the window over the door. This semi-circular window and the lights around the door have had the glass replaced by new stained glass done by a local artisan. The small appearance of this cottage is deceiving and belies the wonderful refurbished interior awaiting the visitor."

Coffee will be served in the morning and tea in the afternoon at St. Mark's Anglican Church, King Street. Lunch will be available at St. John's Anglican Church, Pine Street, North.

Proceeds from the House Tour provide grants and loans to building and home owners in Port Hope and Hope Township to assist in various restoration projects. Currently, the



Ontario cottage, circa 1870, Port Hope.
Courtesy Port Hope ACO.

Port Hope A.C.O. is assisting in the restoration of the Capitol Theatre as well as the development of the Ganaraska Archives.

Tickets for the Tour are limited and are expected to be in great demand given that the price is still only \$12.00. The Tour is always a sell-out! For more information, call 1-905-885-6960 or 1-905-885-5790.

Report of the Consulting Heritage Manager

INTRODUCTION

Paul Dilse has been providing four services to the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc. under contract: managing the Advisory Board community service program; organizing a workshop; guiding architectural tours; and marketing the organization's publications.

ADVISORY BOARD

Of the nine requests for assistance from the Advisory Board, five projects have been completed to the report stage.

William J. (Bill) Moffet of Moffet & Duncan Architects Inc. represented the Advisory Board in the evaluation of St. John's Anglican Church in Harwood. Pauline Browes, church warden, had contacted the Advisory Board over concerns that the Rice

Lake building was suffering from structural problems. In his report, our Advisory Board member comments on the historical and architectural value of the property and the conditions of the building as observed on a site visit. He concludes the report suggesting a program for the church's long-term preservation and a list of priorities for repair. Mr. Moffet's historical evaluation explains the interest shown in the church's conservation:

"St. John's Anglican Church was opened on December 27, 1876 - St. John's Day. The Church was reputedly constructed according to plans brought from England by the Rev. W.

Henry Wadleigh. It was built on land purchased for \$1.00 from James and Ann Speer of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania and much of the labour was provided by the parishioners - a truly international project in this small Ontario village.

Regular services were suspended some years ago but local interest and enthusiasm has brought back summer services and fund raising events which have been successful in renewing interest in the charming Church and in raising funds for its maintenance."

A much different approach was taken with our second Advisory Board project of the year. Following our letter to Stewart Smith, registrar of the Cemeteries Act, in which we suggested a consultative role prior to orders closing cemeteries, the Advisory Board was contacted about Woodhill Pioneer Cemetery in Brampton. The Regional Municipality of Peel agreed to be the Advisory Board client in this special case. Owen R. Scott of the firm Landplan, landscape architects and environmental scientists, reviewed the Regions proposal to widen Airport Road and assessed the impact of the widening on the cemetery.

A team was necessary to respond to a request from the Town of Pickering. The municipality required both historical research and a conditions appraisal for a board-and-batten house to be demolished in a proposed plan of subdivision. Historian Su Murdoch, a new Advisory Board member, researched the property's history while André Scheinman,



The Monica Cook Estate, Pickering.
André Scheinman

heritage preservation consultant, assessed the building's architectural significance and its current condition. Both evaluations concluded that the Monica Cook Estate house is worthy of conservation.

Phillip H. Carter of Phillip H. Carter Architect & Planner represented the Advisory Board in the evaluation of the Rodman Log House on Scugog Island, near Port Perry. Daniel Robert, Director/Curator of the Scugog Shores Historical Museum, had asked whether the abandoned log house was worthy of moving to the museum site one mile distant and restoring to become part of the Museum Village. In his report, Mr. Carter who recommended including the Rodman Log House in the Museum Village describes the building:

"The log house was constructed in ap-

buildings as:

"... the work of one of the 20th century's greatest industrial architects (Albert Kahn) - not just as a single building but as a complex produced in stages over 17 years at the height of his powers."

Four other projects have been assigned to Advisory Board members: the Herkimer Apartments in Hamilton; the Winchester Hotel in Toronto; the Morrow Block in Peterborough; and the Halton Ceramics site in Burlington. The last two are emergency responses.

In addition, the Advisory Board has answered a dozen requests for information or advice over the telephone since February of this year. Furthermore, a draft manual of practice for the Advisory Board has been circulated to all members for comment and reviewed at the Ottawa conference.

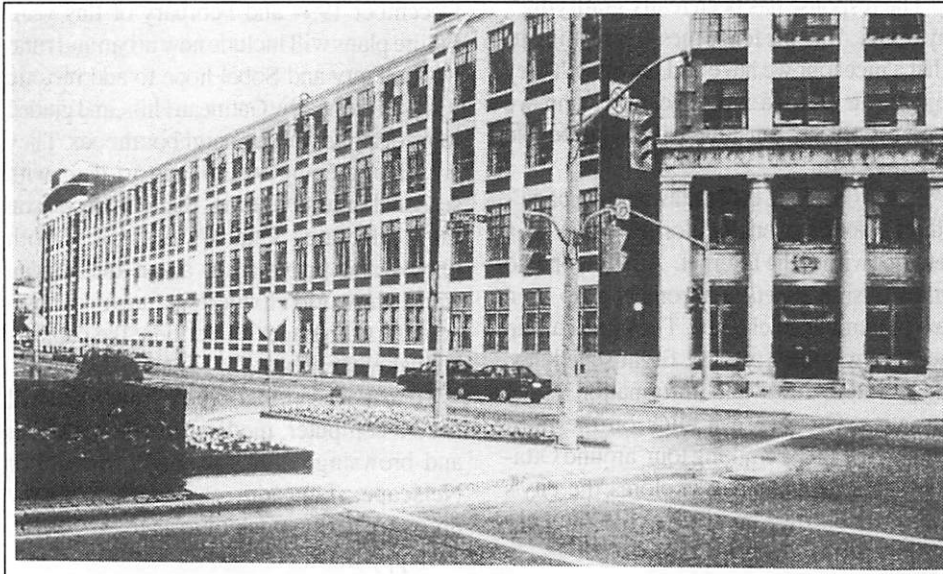
WORKSHOP

A workshop for volunteer practitioners and front-line municipal employees has been organized for November 18 at the Ontario Heritage Centre. The topic is "Using Ontario Legislation Effectively for Heritage Conservation".

The workshop provides an opportunity to review the Ontario Heritage Act, the Planning Act, and the Municipal Act and to apply abstract knowledge learned to concrete examples. Through a pre-workshop needs assessment, students will be asked to suggest projects and issues of concern to them.

The instructors for the afternoon session are: Paul Dilse, Robert Shipley and Michael Johnson. Mr. Dilse offers his training and experience as an adult educator as well as his background in heritage conservation. Robert Shipley, a specialist in the economics of building reuse, has made oral and written presentations during the new Planning Act consultation, providing him with insights into the Act's provisions for conserving our cultural heritage. Michael Johnson, Manager of the Archaeology and Heritage Planning Unit of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, has co-ordinated much of the Ministry's contribution (in terms of heritage conservation advice) to revising the Planning Act.

Registration for the workshop includes the pre-workshop needs assessment, instruction, case study material, refreshments and student take-home study kit. (Copies of the new Planning Act at a special discount price are

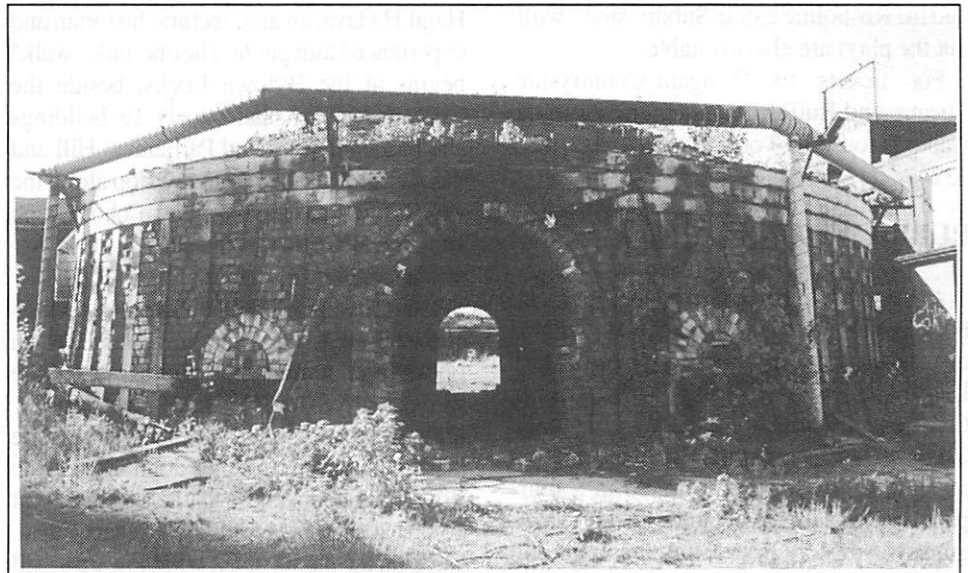


Kaufman Building, Kitchener.
Jeffrey Stinson

proximately 1835-1850 by one of the first settlers to Scugog Island, Isaac Rodman and his wife Mary Scovell. ...

The house is a simple rectangle of 15'x22' and was built as a storey and one half with the upper loft likely for sleeping. The original building appears to have been 11 logs high, built of pine logs of approximately 12" to 14" in diameter with sawn squared ends for corner construction."

Acting on a request from the City of Kitchener LACAC, Architect Jeffery Stinson, another new Advisory Board member, assessed the architectural significance of the William H. Kaufman Inc. industrial buildings. His report emphasizes the importance of the complex ensemble of buildings, large and small. He describes the Kaufman



Halton Ceramics Site, Burlington.
John Martins-Manteiga

also available.) The non-profit workshop is limited to 20 students.

To register or to receive more information, please call (416) 921-5324.

ARCHITECTURAL TOURS

June 2 marked the beginning of a new program of architectural tours offered through provincial council and Paul Dilse. A pleasant day was spent touring the Don River's parks, gardens and ravines and nearby buildings by van and on foot. Mr. Dilse guided the group through six sites, and Ken Duncan of the Rhododendron Society of Canada also made a presentation at the Edwards Gardens; Mr. Duncan, who had planted many of the shrubs he described, walked the group through an outstanding collection of azaleas and rhododendrons in bloom.

A week later, another group toured the subdivision of the Rusholme estate in west central Toronto. Cheryl Goleski, stained glass artist added to Mr. Dilse's description of buildings and conservation projects by talking about the history and making of stained glass. The walking tour ended at St. Anne's Anglican Church where a special performance was held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the United Nations. The group sat in the same pew as Nicholas Goldschmidt, conductor of "Noye's Fludde". Benjamin Britten's Chester miracle play later travelled to Ottawa, Montreal and San Francisco.

A fall tour to Niagara, the Shaw Festival and Buffalo will complete the 1995 program of special tour events. In addition, half-day walking tours in Toronto (of Cabbagetown, and the Rusholme Estate Subdivision - without the play) are also available.

For tickets to "Niagara Countryside, Theatre and Buffalo Architecture" or to the walking tours in Toronto, call (416) 921-5324.

PUBLICATIONS

A list of ACO books, monographs and booklets in print has been compiled and distributed to LACACs across Ontario. Mary Lou Evans of the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation kindly included the list in a Ministry mailing. The information about our publications appeared in a four-page leaflet called "A Guide to Four Programs" (Advisory Board, training, tours and publications).

Take a Walk on the Wired Side

Since last December, 500 people every week have toured the streets of Ottawa without leaving home. They are cybertravellers, sightseers in that amorphous electronic universe known as the Internet. And what's bringing them to Canada's capital? A virtual reality walking tour, brainchild of Doug Petty and Alan Sobel, that takes them to some of Ottawa's popular tourist attractions via their individual computer screens.

The tour was launched in early December by Petty and Sobel under the name Interaccess Technology Corp. Since then, visitors from as far away as Hong Kong and Israel have "dropped into" the city.

"The response has been really gratifying", says Petty, "people leave messages telling us what a nice tour we have and how much they enjoyed it. Ottawa is a lovely city and we hope eventually our tour will bring people here in person".

Visitors begin at the "Ottawa home page", a digital doorway on the World Wide Web, a network within the Internet. A "Welcome to Ottawa" sign greets newcomers who then have a number of choices. They can call up the local weather forecast, flight schedules, restaurant reviews and information about museums. Or, they can click on the most popular feature, a walking tour around Ottawa's heritage sites that explores the city's origins as Bytown and its links to the construction of the Rideau Canal.

The tour was mapped and researched by Hagit Hadaya, an architectural historian and experienced tour guide. The one-mile "walk" begins at the Bytown Locks, beside the Château Laurier, and covers 19 buildings and monuments around Parliament Hill and the Byward Market. At every stop along the way visitors are able to view a photograph and an explanation of the site's historic significance.

The software is based on hypertext which allows users to click on the words Bytown Locks and a thumbnail photograph of the site comes up on the screen with a few sentences explaining that this was the site that Lieutenant Colonel John By of the Royal Engineers chose as the starting point of the 200 km (125 miles) Rideau Canal. Click on the photo, and it will blow up to fill most of the screen.

Other sites include the Commissariat Building, the oldest stone structure in Ottawa; the Gothic Revival Notre-Dame Basilica with its towering twin spires, built on the site of the city's first Roman Catholic church; and the Elizabeth Bruyère Hospital with its sundial, the first public timepiece in Ottawa. The tour ends in the Byward Market with a visit to some of its historic and quirky courtyards.

A numbered map accompanying the tour is another path to information about the route. Click on a site number and the detailed screen with photo and text pops up. The tour and map can be downloaded to home computers and printed for the use of travellers making a journey to Ottawa.

The virtual tour takes a few minutes on computer, but about one-and-a half hours to actually walk the circuit.

This particular tour was available between December 1994 and February of this year. Future plans will include new urban and rural walks. Petty and Sobel hope to add historic walks in the nearby Gatineau Hills, and guided tours of central urban neighbourhoods. They are also keeping visitors up to date with seasonal news. During the winter season they celebrated Ottawa's attractions with photos and information about the Rideau Canal, the world's longest skating rink; cross-country skiing and Winterlude; the capital's annual winter festival.

To make the virtual trip to Ottawa you will need a computer, modem, Internet provider and browsing software such as Mosaic or Netscape. The address is: <http://www.digimark.nt:80/iatech/tour/>.

Happy trails.

Miriam Sobel is a freelance journalist living in Ottawa

Hagit Hadaya is an architectural historian/heritage conservationist and is a member of the Ottawa LACAC.

Reprinted from Heritage Canada, March/April 1995

Port Hope Annual House Tour

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1995

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

This event features houses from the town's extensive
19th century architecture

Admission \$12.00

Tickets are limited

Order early



Town Hall circa 1851

Tickets available in Port Hope at:

Acanthus Interiors, 25 John Street
Chamber of Commerce, 35 John Street
Chatwood & Simmons, 56 Walton Street
Lord Russborough's Annex, 82 Walton Street
Furby House Books, 64 Walton Street

Tickets available in Cobourg at:

The Cobourg Print Gallery, 8 King Street

or by writing to:

Port Hope ACO, P.O. Box 563, Port Hope, Ontario L1A 3Z4

Please add \$1.00 shipping and handling for 5 tickets or less,
more than 5 tickets add \$2.00

For further information

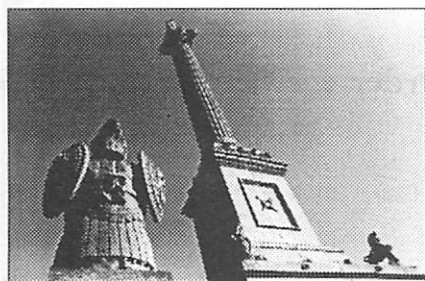
Please call 905-885-6960 or 1-905-885-5790

Sponsored by the Port Hope Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario

WILLIAM THOMAS

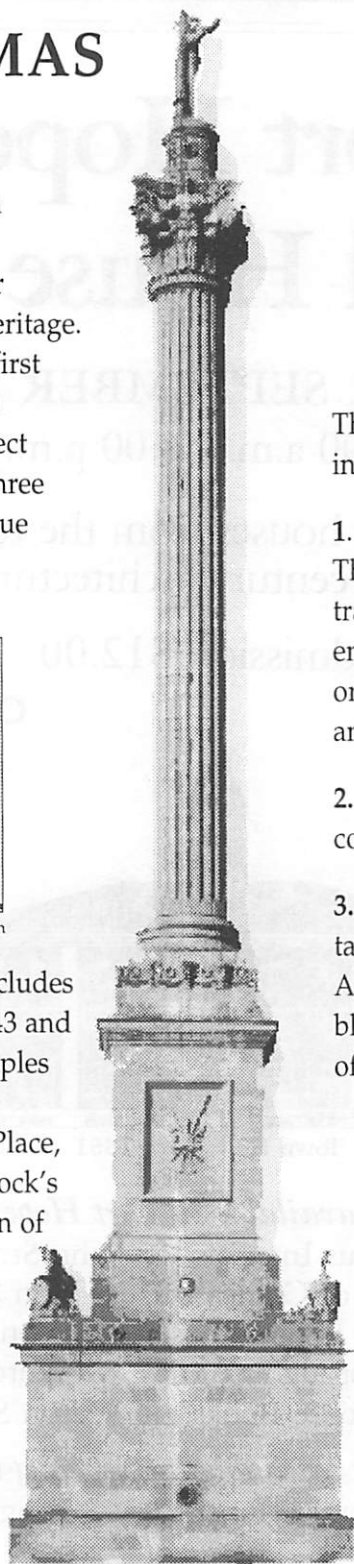
ARCHITECT 1799-1860

As a subscriber to Acorn you have a wonderful opportunity to become involved in a project that celebrates our country's architectural character and heritage. We are in the process of preparing the first major exhibition and publication of the historically significant Canadian architect William Thomas, and we are offering three ways for you to participate in this unique and historic event.

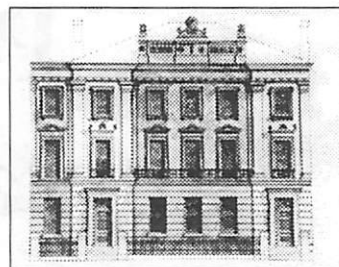


Brock's Monument, Queenston

William Thomas's body of works includes over 100 buildings erected between 1843 and 1860, including such well-known examples as St. Lawrence Hall, the Don Jail, the Commercial Bank (now part of B.C.E. Place, Heritage Square) all in Toronto, and Brock's Monument in Queenston. An exhibition of this prolific and influential architect's works is scheduled to open at the Art Gallery of Hamilton in the fall of 1996 followed by a national tour. The architects carved stone model of Brock's Monument standing 3 metres high and weighing 1,000 kg. will be the highlight of the exhibition.



Architects model of Brock's Monument, Guernsey



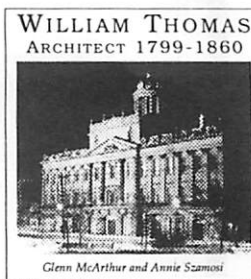
Commerical Bank, B.C.E. Place, Toronto

These are the ways that you can become involved in this exciting project:

1. Purchase a limited-run, first-edition book. This 200 page monograph has over 250 illustrations and can be used for personal reference or a gift. The price is \$40.00 soft cover, or \$60.00 hard cover plus \$12.95 for shipping and taxes; or
2. donate \$500. or more, and receive a hard cover copy of the book and a tax-receipt; or
3. if you do not wish to purchase the book, a tax-deductible donation of any amount to the Art Gallery of Hamilton (a registered charitable institution) will go towards the expenses of the exhibition and book publication costs.

We need you and I hope we can count on your generous support for this unique and exciting celebration of our architectural heritage and Canadian history.

To meet our publication deadline for a Nov./Dec. delivery date, an ASAP response by Sept. 1 1995 is requested.



Please fill out the order/donation form and return it to the Art Gallery of Hamilton.

Book/Donation Order Form

Return this portion with your book order or donation and your cheque or credit card information to the Art Gallery of Hamilton, 123 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4S8 Tel: (905) 527-6610 Fax: (905) 577-6940.

Name

Address

City/Province

Postal Code

☐ I wish to purchase a book(s) _____ Number ☐ Soft Cover ☐ Hard Cover

☐ I wish to donate, my cheque is enclosed for \$

☐ Mastercard ☐ VISA Card Number

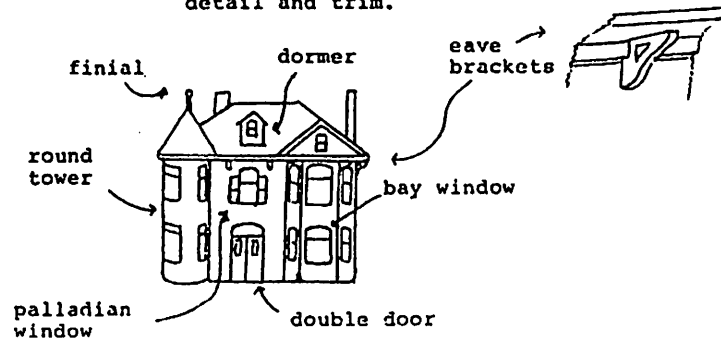
Expiry Date

Signature

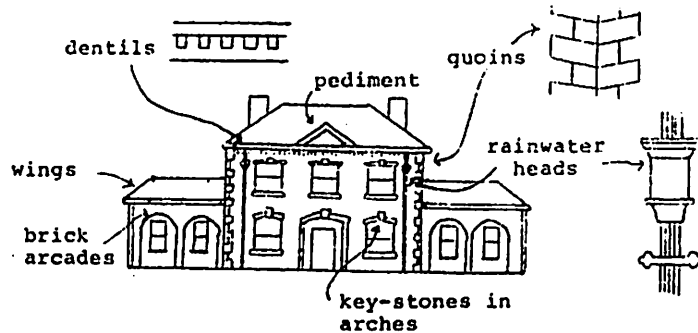
ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS

Victorian (1875-1914)

Great variety of plans, features, detail and trim.



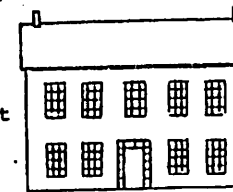
Classic



Many buildings show a variety of classical details.

Mennonite Georgian (up to 1865)

door with sidelights and straight transom



usually 3 or 5 bays (openings) across front

small attic windows are trademark



return eaves
anchors for tie-rods (support for walls)

Vernacular (any age)

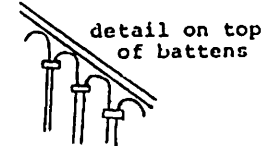
most early houses are vernacular to some extent.



owner designed and often owner built

no particular style

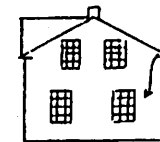
board and batten (wooden strips nailed over joints between vertical planks)



Gothic (1849-1875)

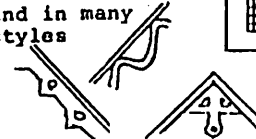
decorative barge-board is common and in many styles

gable is typical, often with pointed window



6/6 windows

(similar houses built without gable, 1860-1880)



If Not Delivered Please
Return To:
The Architectural Conservancy
of Ontario
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 1J3



ISSN 0704-0083